

PRIOR ART

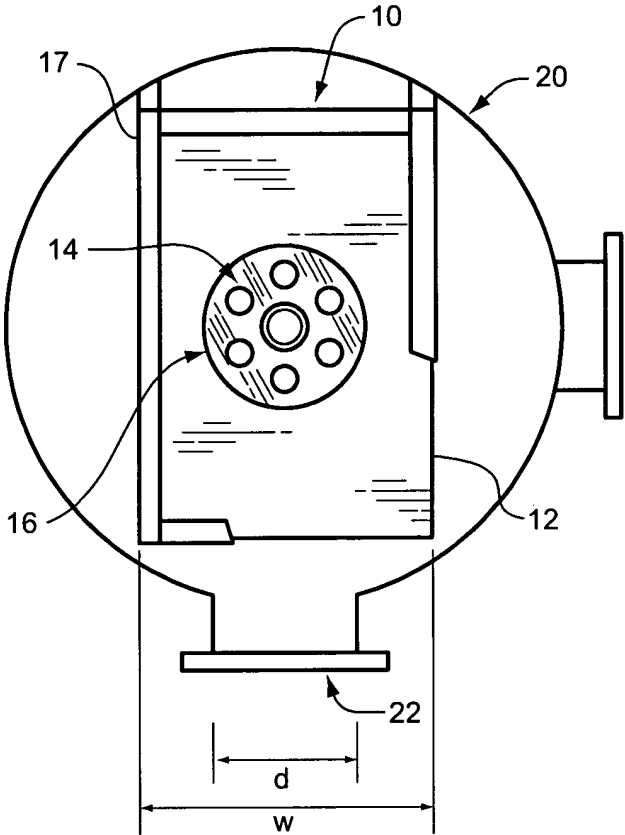


FIG. 2A

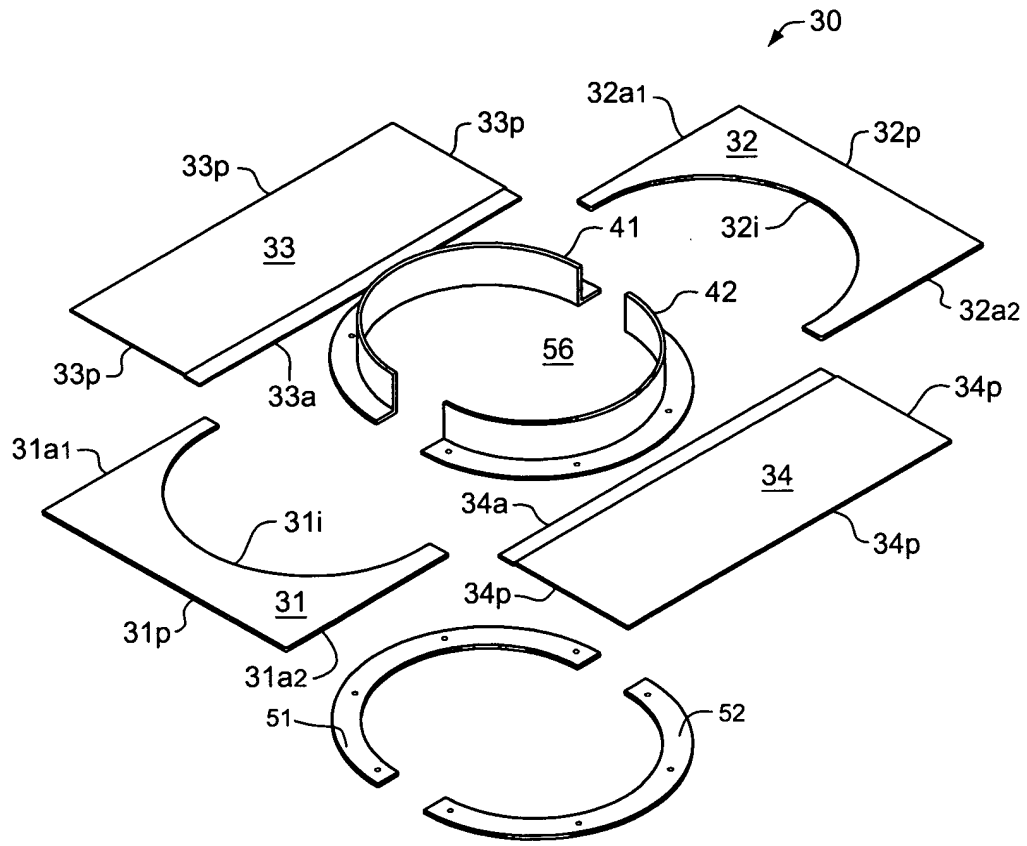
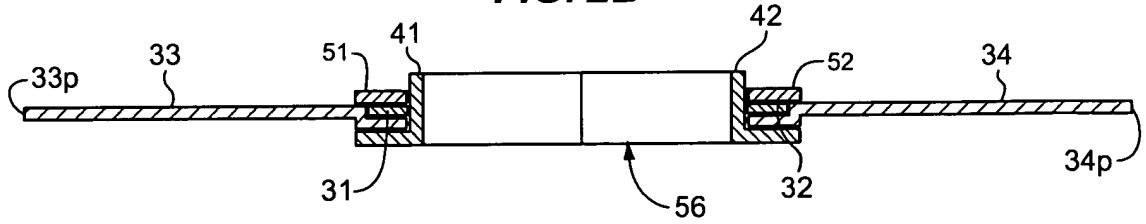


FIG. 2B



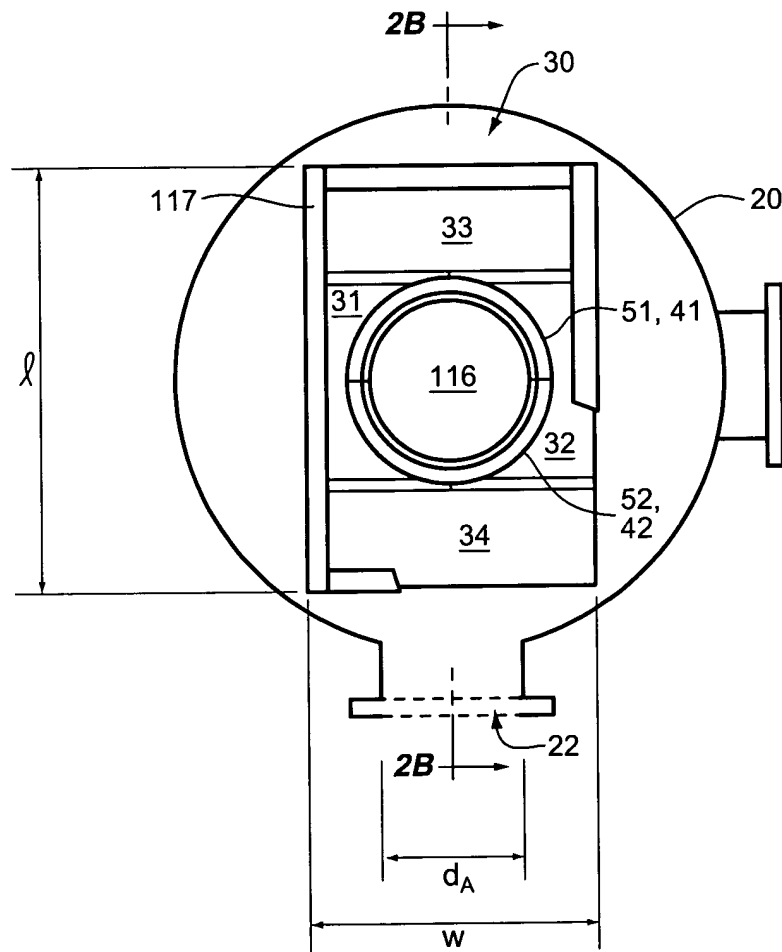


FIG. 4A

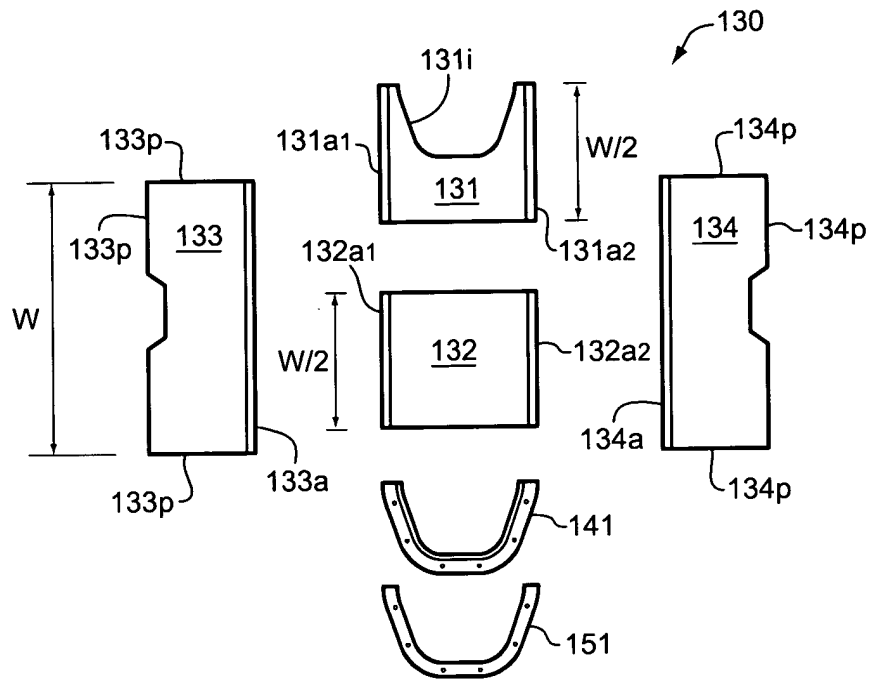


FIG. 4B

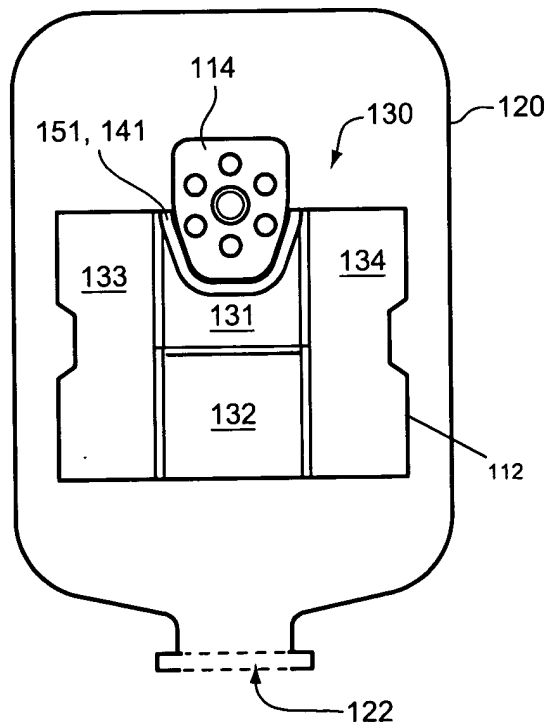


FIG. 5

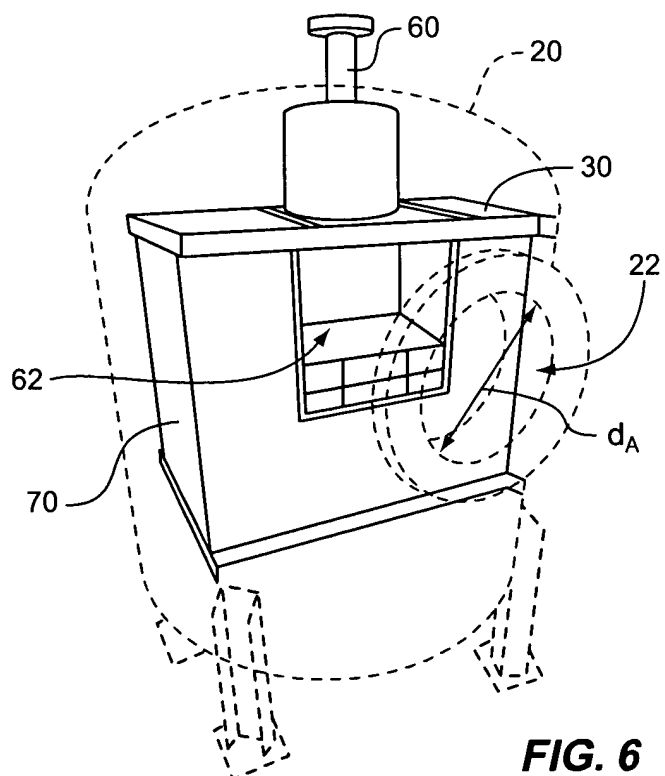
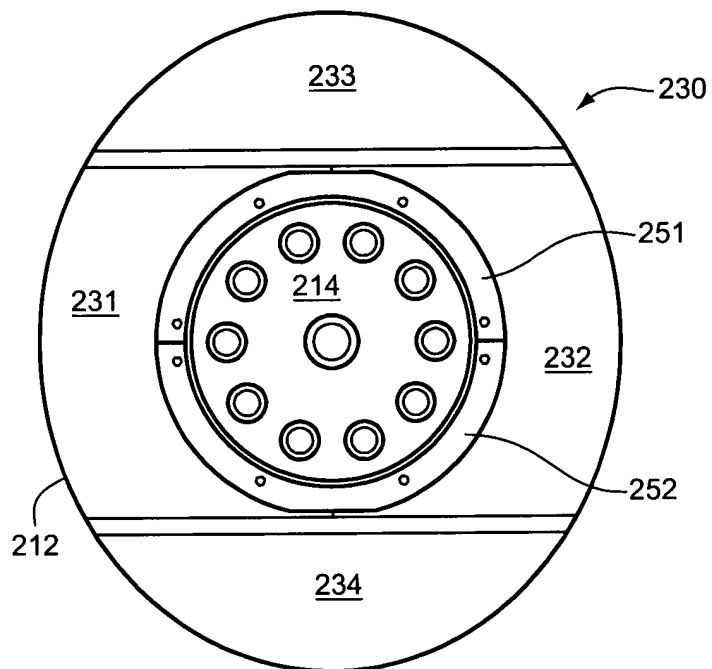


FIG. 6

FIG. 7A

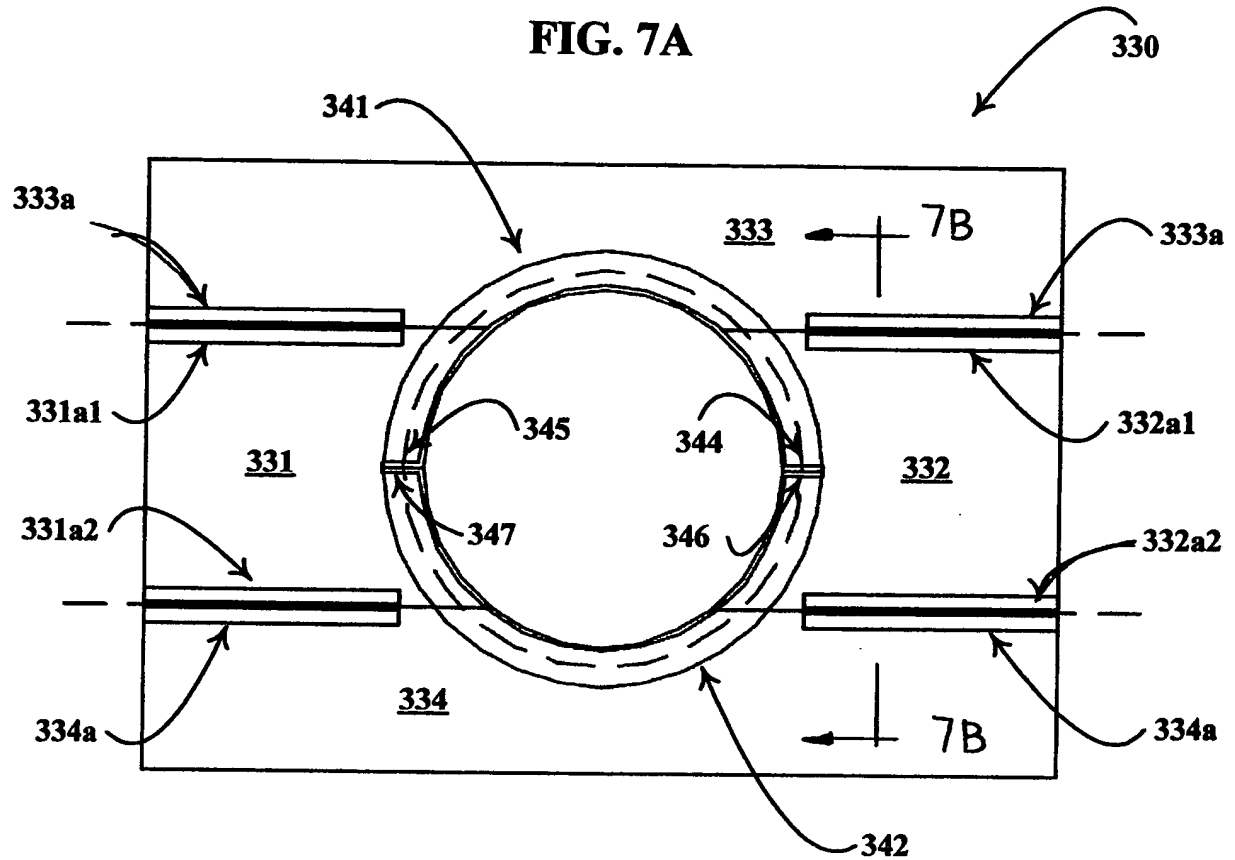


FIG. 7B

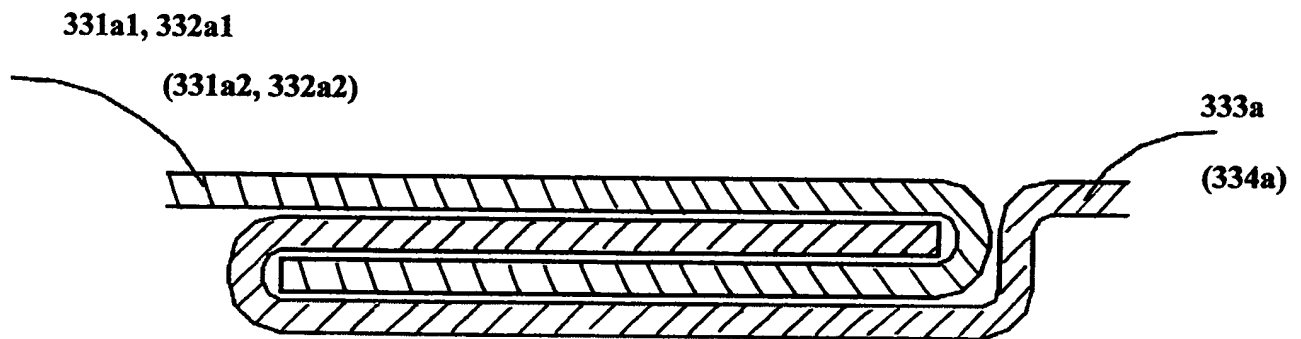


FIG. 8A

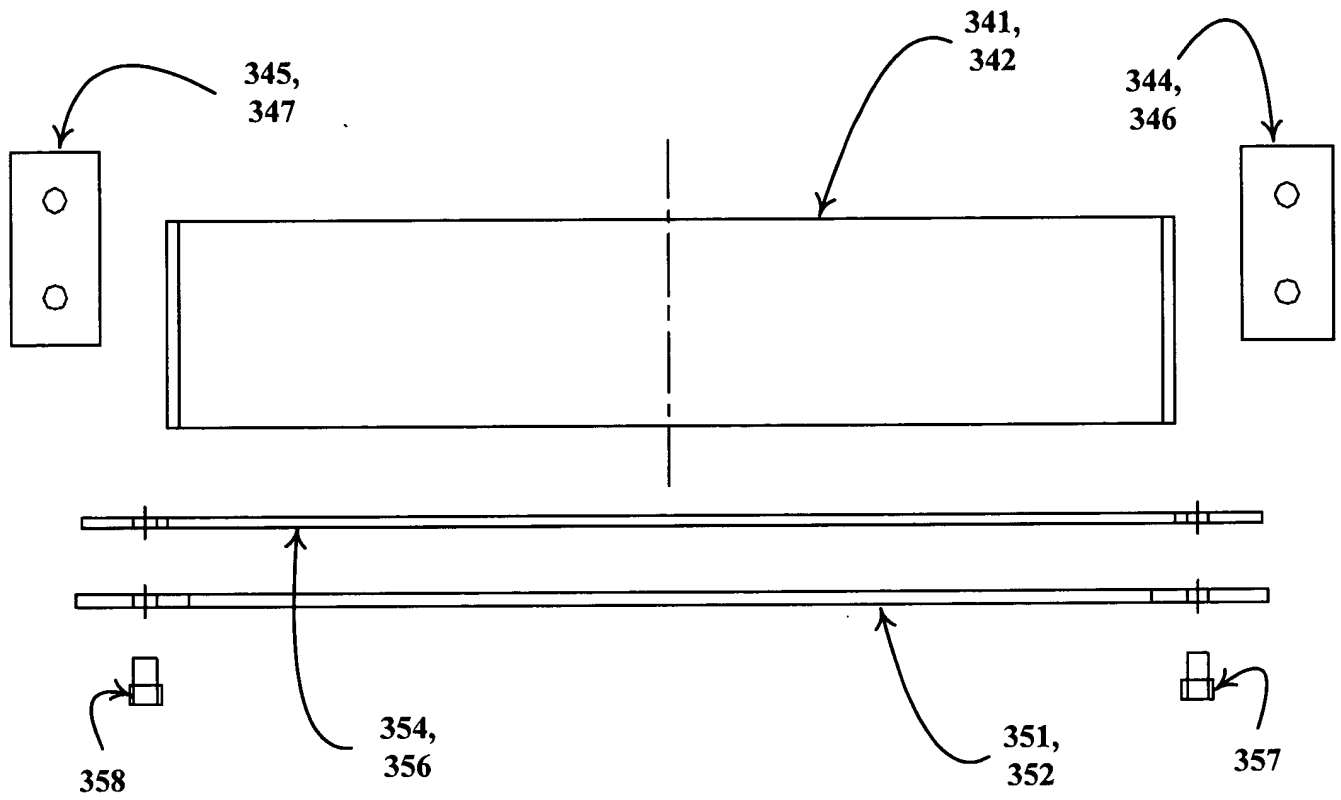


FIG. 8B

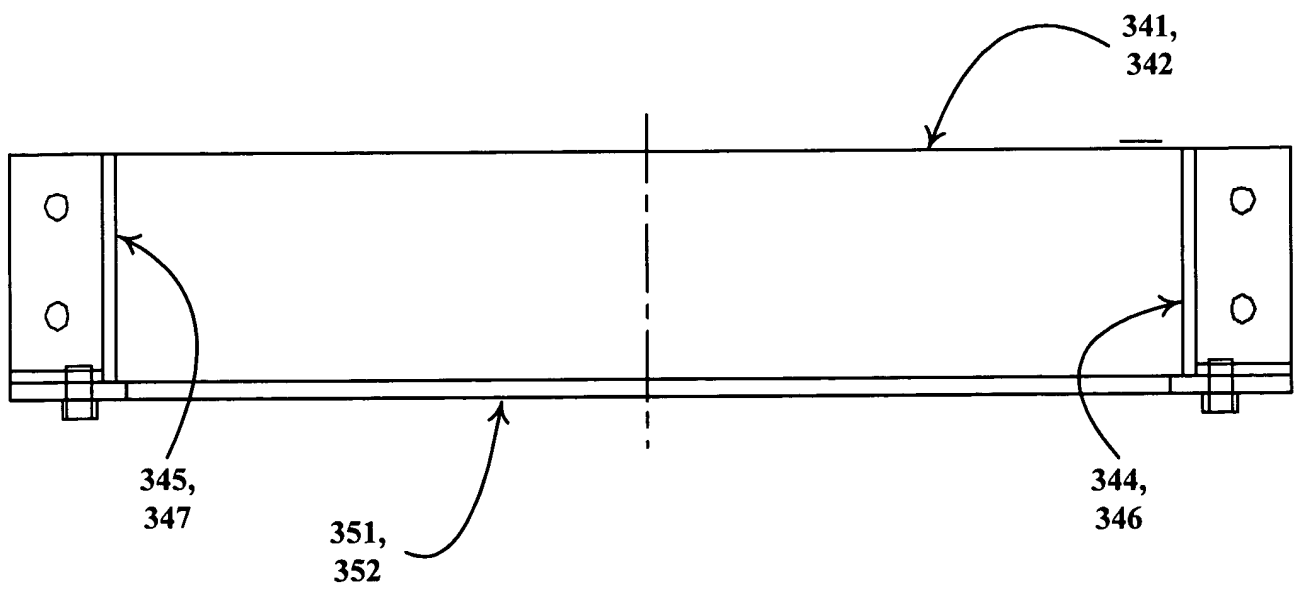


FIG. 9

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graph TD
    200(( )) --> 202[Disassemble & remove existing plate assembly, if needed]
    202 --> 204[Pass each of a plurality of generally rigid plate-sections through a limited access to a confined area]
    204 --> 206[Provide a self-lock seam along respective edge-boundaries of those plate-sections that will be adjacently arranged]
    206 --> 208
    subgraph 208 [ ]
        210[Orient and arrange one or more of the plate-sections such that:  
Orient a first and second plate-section, each having a respective curved inward-boundary, to create an aperture/opening within the plate]
        209[Orient a first plate-section with its inward-edge-boundary facing outwardly creating an opening in the exterior perimeter of the plate]
        211[adjacently arrange at least two of the plate-sections to create generally water-impermeable seal between and along adjacent boundaries having the flexible barrier]
        210 --> 211
        209 --> 211
    end
    208 --> 222[Construct segmented plate whereby a final geometric size of an exterior perimeter is larger than may pass through the limited access]
    222 --> 246(( ))
    246 --> 210
    246 --> 240
    subgraph 240 [ ]
        242[Arrange collar piece(s) adjacent a respective inward-boundary of each of the first and second plate-section]
        244[Arrange top support(s) around/atop respective collar piece(s) and around the periphery of a central sub-assembly]
        248[Secure each top support, effecting a water-impermeable seam]
        242 --> 244
        244 --> 248
    end
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The flowchart illustrates a method for constructing a segmented plate assembly. The process begins with a step 202: "Disassemble & remove existing plate assembly, if needed". This is followed by step 204: "Pass each of a plurality of generally rigid plate-sections through a limited access to a confined area". Step 206: "Provide a self-lock seam along respective edge-boundaries of those plate-sections that will be adjacently arranged". The process then enters a large block 208, which contains three sub-steps: 210 "Orient and arrange one or more of the plate-sections such that: Orient a first and second plate-section, each having a respective curved inward-boundary, to create an aperture/opening within the plate", 209 "Orient a first plate-section with its inward-edge-boundary facing outwardly creating an opening in the exterior perimeter of the plate", and 211 "adjacently arrange at least two of the plate-sections to create generally water-impermeable seal between and along adjacent boundaries having the flexible barrier". Step 210 leads to 211, and step 209 also leads to 211. Following block 208, step 222: "Construct segmented plate whereby a final geometric size of an exterior perimeter is larger than may pass through the limited access" is performed. The process then branches into two paths. Path 246 loops back to step 210. Path 240, which is enclosed in a dashed box, includes steps 242: "Arrange collar piece(s) adjacent a respective inward-boundary of each of the first and second plate-section", 244: "Arrange top support(s) around/atop respective collar piece(s) and around the periphery of a central sub-assembly", and 248: "Secure each top support, effecting a water-impermeable seam". Step 242 leads to 244, which leads to 248.

